

September 30, 2008

Society for Conservation Biology, Davis student chapter
1st meeting of the year

Pres: Kristy Dybala
Vice-Pres: Kristy Deiner
Sec: Marit Wilkerson
Treasurer: Sara Krause

And we start with pizza. Oh, yes.

Next meetings are Oct 8th and Dec 2nd.
Student prices for SCB are \$10.

Mark (on why everyone should jump on the SCB bandwagon):

History of professional societies and journals. Many societies now are experiencing a membership crisis because their scientific journals are often open to the public now. The value from membership comes from the joy of not “free-riding” or as Kevin put it, not having “karmic debt.” Chapters are a great way of disseminating information and for students to get involved at higher levels in professional societies.

Future plans:

Conservation-related ballot propositions:

3 props of interest to scientists. Want to research them and present the results at the next meeting before elections.

Mark suggests coordinating with other California chapters to not only evaluate these propositions but also to get involved in further legislation.

Prop 1 could also be related to our interests.

Marguerite will take up the renewable energy bill.

Ben Janes will look up prop 1 (light rail).

Sara Krause will look up prop 10.

Bjorn will look at the chicken prop.

*Job for Marit: send out an email with information about the props (unbiased).

Kevin suggested we contact Andrew Latimer about politics.

Restoration activities:

Brainstorm about contacts/projects people would be interested in working with.
To be presented at next meeting

Undergrad seminar series:

Partnership with E&E department. Way to showcase graduate students’ research projects around campus to undergraduates. Two undergrad reps who deal with logistics, graduate coordinators deal with gathering speakers and then presenting each speaker during the course (which occurs in the winter quarter). E-mail Kristy at

kldeiner@ucdavis.edu

Limited to 25 undergrad students, 2 unit class, EVE 198.

WIDSI: Watch It, Don't Squash It

Grad students go into schools and teach for short sessions. Teach in a team, topics often wildlife conservation but plants are cool too (very, very cool). Often very hands-on, not a lecture. Volunteers often committed a quarter at a time and would go 2-4 times per quarter, once to twice a month.

Patrick Grof-Tisza bravely has decided to take the lead in this endeavor with Sara Krause lending her wisdom and contact information.

“journal:”

SCB does a fair amount of things and it might be a good idea to present results of our meetings, volunteer work, etc. Would take the form of a newsletter.

There is an official SCB newsletter and Mark suggested that we contact the woman in charge of that to publish our chapter going-ons. Goes out to all SCB members.

Other:

Mark asked about what is happening with the Bay Area Research Conservation Biology Symposium this year. We're not sure. It's supposed to be Stanford's responsibility, but we need to contact the chapter there to verify that someone is truly working on that.

Other ways to get involved with SCB:

Need a webmaster! Iara volunteered immediately (sweet!). Bare minimum is just updates.

In charge of food? Sara Krause takes the reins.

Kristy Deiner suggested doing fund-raising to either visit awesome Cali places or provide funding for grads to go to SCB conferences (or potentially others.) Christina Liang talked about how two years ago there was a fund-raiser called Biodiversity Blues, raised a couple grand for charity organization in South America. Happened in spring, \$10 fee to get in.

We also have a sister chapter in Bolivia. Could raise money to help send them to the SCB international conference.

Everyone bring in their ideas to future meetings! Any and all input is welcome.